IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:


1. (original) A method of processing digital coded video data available in the form of a video stream consisting of consecutive frames divided into macroblocks, said frames including at least I-frames, independently coded, P-frames, temporally disposed between said I-frames and predicted from at least a previous I- or P-frame, and B-frames, temporally disposed between an I-frame and a P-frame, or between two P-frames, and bidirectionally predicted from at least these two frames between which they are disposed, said predictions of P- and B-frames being performed by means of a weighted prediction with unequal amount of prediction from the past and the future, said processing method comprising the steps of :

- determining for each successive macroblock of the current frame related coding parameters characterizing, if any, said weighted prediction ;

- collecting said parameters for all the successive macroblocks of the current frame, for delivering statistics related to said parameters ;

- analyzing said statistics for determining a change of preference for the direction of prediction ;

- detecting the occurrence of a gradual scene change

in the sequence of frames each time a change of preference has been determined.

2.  (original)  A processing method according to claim 1, in which the analysis step is provided for comparing the number of macroblocks having the same directional preference and similar weighting against a predefined threshold derived in relation to the total number of macroblocks in the current frame.

3.  (original)  A processing method according to claim 2, in which an information about the location and the duration of each scene change is produced and stored in a file.

4.  (currently amended)  A processing method according to ~~anyone of claims 1 to 3~~claim 1, in which the syntax and semantics of the processed video stream are those of the H.264/AVC standard.

5.  (original)  A device for processing digital coded video data available in the form of a video stream consisting of consecutive frames divided into macroblocks, said frames including at least I-frames, independently coded, P-frames, temporally disposed between said I-frames and predicted from at least a previous I- or P-frame, and B-frames, temporally disposed between an I-frame and a P-frame,

or between two P-frames, and bidirectionally predicted from at least these two frames between which they are disposed, said predictions of P- and B-frames being performed by means of a weighted prediction with unequal amount of prediction from the past and the future, said device comprising the following means :

- determining means, provided for determining for each successive macroblock of the current frame related coding parameters characterizing, if any, said weighted prediction ;

- collecting means, provided for collecting said parameters for all the successive macroblocks of the current frame, for delivering statistics related to said parameters ;

- analyzing means, provided for analyzing said statistics for determining a change of preference for the direction of prediction ;

- detecting means, provided for detecting the occurrence of a gradual scene change in the sequence of frames each time a change of preference has been determined.

6. (canceled)